

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

*The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.*

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)

10. **(Currently Amended)** A process for preparing an isolated polypeptide comprising the following steps:

(a) culturing, under suitable conditions to obtain the expression of said polypeptide, a host cell transformed or transfected with an expression vector comprising an isolated polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence ~~with at least 95% homology to the polynucleotide sequence~~ of SEQ. ID. NO. 9 or SEQ. ID. NO. 13 and having at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation, and

(b) isolating the polypeptide from the host cell cultures;  
wherein said isolated polypeptide has at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH, and wherein said isolated polypeptide is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.

Claims 11-22 **(Cancelled)**

23. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.
24. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.
25. **(Currently amended)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence ~~with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence~~ of SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
26. **(Previously presented)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 25.
27. **(Currently amended)** [[A]] An isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 26.

28. **(Previously presented)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 27 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.
29. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 28, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
30. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 25.
31. **(Currently amended)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence ~~with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence~~ of SEQ ID NO: 9, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
32. **(Previously presented)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 31.
33. **(Currently amended)** ~~[[A]]~~ An isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 32.
34. **(Previously presented)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 33 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.
35. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 34, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
36. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 31.
37. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11.
38. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12.

39. **(Currently amended)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence ~~with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence~~ of SEQ ID NO: 13, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
40. **(Previously presented)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 39.
41. **(Currently amended)** ~~[[A]]~~ An isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 40.
42. **(Previously presented)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 41 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.
43. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 42, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
44. **(Previously presented)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 39.